

REMARKS

Claims 2-3, 5, 7-8, 10-24, 26-35 and 37-42 were amended. Claims 1, 4, 6, 9, 25, 36 and 43-72 were canceled without prejudice. No claims were added or withdrawn. Accordingly, claims 2-3, 5, 7-8, 10-24, 26-35 and 37-42 remain pending.

Applicant thanks the Office for indicating that claims 12, 17, 18, 19, 26, 27, 28 and 33 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. To place this application into condition for allowance, Applicant has so amended these claims. More specifically, claims 12, 17, 18, and 26 have been amended into independent form to include all of the limitations of their respective base claim and any intervening claims. All remaining dependent claims depend from a respective one of these amended allowable independent claims.

Withdrawal of the outstanding rejections to the pending claims is respectfully requested.

35 USC §101 Rejections

Claims 43-58 and 59-72 stand rejected under 35 USC §101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. To place this application into condition for immediate allowance, claims 43-58 and 59-72 have been canceled without prejudice. Withdrawal of the 35 USC §101 rejection is respectfully requested.

35 USC §102 Rejections

Claims 1-11, 13-16, 20-25, 29-32 and 34-72 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by US publication serial number 2003/0172368 to Alumbaugh.

To place this application into immediate condition for allowance, the following amendments have been implemented. Claims 1, 4, 6, 9, 25, 36, and 43-72 have been canceled without prejudice. The Action indicates at page 14 that claim 17 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of base claim 1. Claim 17 has been so amended. Respective ones of claims 2-3, 5, 7-8, 10-11, 13-16 and 20-24 as amended depend from allowable claim 17. The Action indicates at page 14 that claim 26 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of its base claim 25. Claim 26 has been so amended. Respective ones of claims 29-32, 34-35 and 37-42 as amended depend from allowable claim 26. Claims 43-72 have been canceled without prejudice.

In view of these claim amendments, withdrawal of all 35 USC §102(e) rejections is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Pending claims 2-3, 5, 7-8, 10-24, 26-35 and 37-42 are in condition for allowance and action to that end is respectfully requested. Should any issue remain that prevents allowance of the application, the Office is encouraged to contact the undersigned to discuss this case prior to issuing any subsequent Action.

Respectfully Submitted,

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